

ANIMAL CARE PROGRAM

GUIDANCE: VEAL PRODUCERS

Purpose

This guidance explains the requirements of 1) California veal producers¹ keeping a calf² for the purpose of producing³ whole veal meat⁴ and 2) veal producers outside of California keeping a calf for the purpose of producing whole veal meat for commercial sale⁵ in California.

Scope

All California veal producers and veal producers outside of California keeping calves for the purpose of producing whole veal meat for commercial sale in California must confine the covered animal⁶ on a certified operation⁷ (farm) in compliance with the [Animal Confinement regulations](#).

Instructions

A veal producer must:

- 1) Meet the confinement requirements for keeping calves.
- 2) Have a valid Certificate of Compliance⁸ for each farm location where calves are kept.
- 3) Renew Certificate of Compliance annually.

1) Confinement of Calves

- Confine a calf in an enclosure⁹ that does not prevent the calf from lying down, standing up, fully extending its limbs¹⁰, or turning around freely¹¹.

AND

- Confine a calf in an enclosure that provides a minimum of 43 square feet of usable¹² floorspace per calf.
- Exceptions¹³ to these confinement requirements:
 - During examination, testing, individual treatment, or operation for veterinary purposes
 - During Transportation
 - During rodeo exhibitions, state or county fair exhibitions, 4-H programs, and similar exhibitions.
 - During slaughter.
 - During temporary periods for animal husbandry purposes for no more than six hours in any 24-hour period, and no more than 24 hours total in any 30-day period.
- Note: there is no requirement for calves to be kept in groups, but a veal producer may choose to keep calves in groups which is permitted provided all confinement requirements are met.

¹Veal producer as defined in [3 CCR § 1321\(dd\)](#).

²Calf as defined in [3 CCR § 1321\(c\)](#).

³Kept for the purposes of producing as defined in [3 CCR § 1321\(s\)](#).

⁴Whole veal meat as defined in [3 CCR § 1321\(ee\)](#).

⁵Commercial sale as defined in [3 CCR § 1321\(f\)](#).

⁶Covered animal as defined in [3 CCR § 1326\(h\)](#).

⁷Certified operation as defined in [3 CCR § 1326\(e\)](#).

⁸Certificate of compliance as described in [3 CCR § 1326\(d\)](#) and used throughout Animal Confinement regulations.

⁹Enclosure as defined in [3 CCR § 1321\(n\)](#).

¹⁰Fully extending its limbs as defined in [HSC § 25991\(k\)](#).

¹¹Turning around freely as defined in [HSC § 25991\(q\)](#).

¹²Usable floorspace as defined in [3 CCR § 1321\(bb\)](#).

¹³Exceptions as described in [3 CCR §§ 1324-1324.1](#).

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2) Obtain a Certificate of Compliance

- A valid certification in the form of a Certificate of Compliance issued by an accredited certifying agent¹⁴, CDFA, or another governmental entity¹⁵, identifies a farm as confining calves and maintaining production records in accordance with the Animal Confinement regulations.
- To initiate the process for certification, a veal producer must:
 - Apply for certification
 - Certification may be obtained from an accredited certifying agent, CDFA, or another government entity.
 - Certification is required by January 1, 2024.
 - Pass an on-site inspection¹⁶
 - The on-site inspection is used to assess whether each farm location complies with the Animal Confinement regulations and to verify information provided on the application for certification of the operation's activities is accurate and truthful.
 - Maintain records¹⁷
 - For a period of 2 years from their creation to document the calves were kept in compliance with the Animal Confinement regulations.

3) Renew Certificate of Compliance Annually

- To continue certification and compliance with Animal Confinement regulations, a veal producer must annually submit renewal information¹⁸ to the certifying agent for the purpose of renewing a Certificate of Compliance.
- An on-site inspection must be conducted by the certifying agent at least once every 12 months for each veal producer location keeping calves to determine whether certification of the veal producer should continue.

¹⁴Certifying agent as defined in [3 CCR § 1326\(f\)](#).

¹⁵Governmental entity as defined in [3 CCR § 1326\(n\)](#).

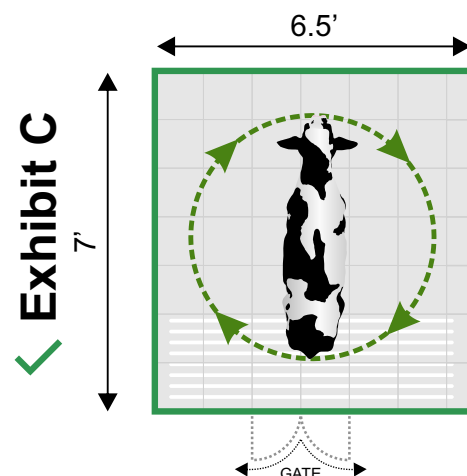
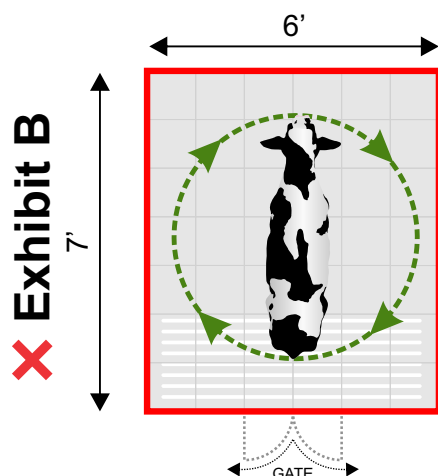
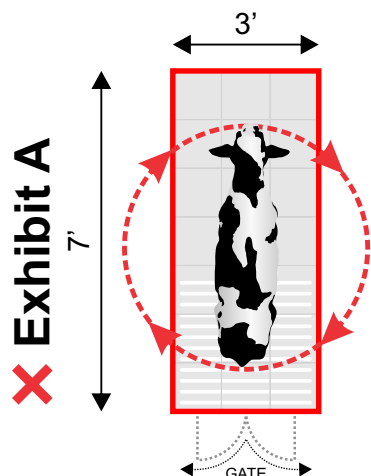
¹⁶On-site inspection as described in [3 CCR § 1326.5](#).

¹⁷Records as defined in [3 CCR § 1326\(w\)](#) and described in [3 CCR § 1326.2](#).

¹⁸Renewal information as described in [3 CCR § 1326.8\(a\)](#).

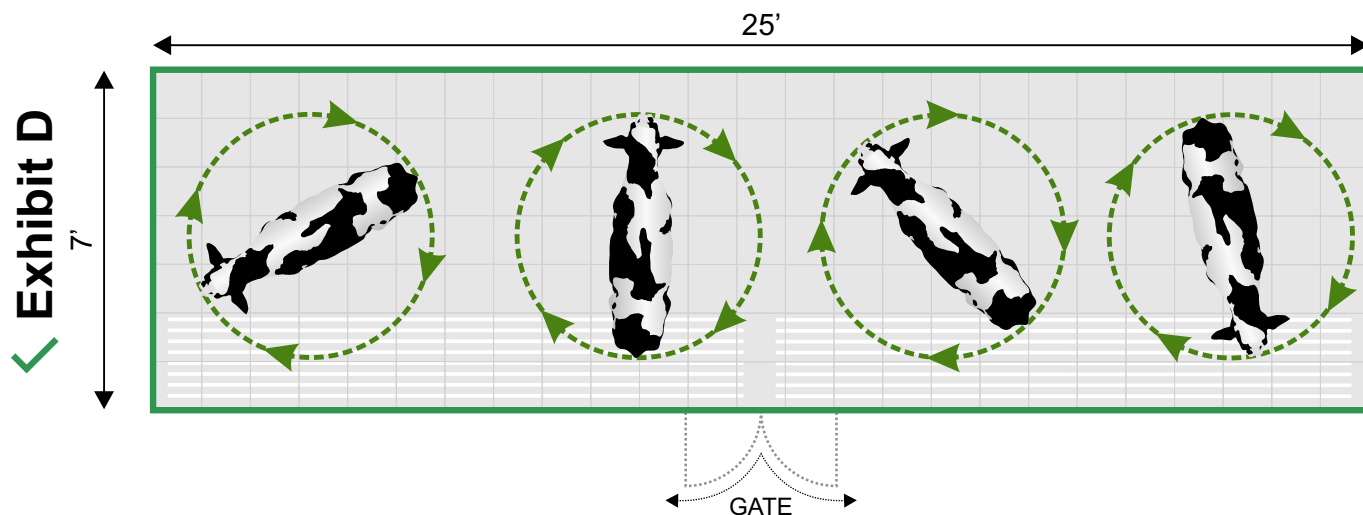
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Exhibits A - C illustrate veal calves housed in individual housing systems that confine a calf to an enclosure that is locked and can only be opened by a person. Exhibit A illustrates an individual stall allowing only 21 ft². Exhibit A is a noncompliant enclosure. Exhibit B illustrates a similar style stall that allows the calf to turn around freely, however it falls short of the required 43ft² of usable floorspace. Exhibit B is a noncompliant enclosure. Exhibit C illustrates an individual pen with 45.5 ft² of usable floorspace and allows the calf to turn around freely. Exhibit C is a compliant enclosure.

Exhibit D illustrates a group pen with 175 ft² of usable floorspace and allows each calf to turn around freely. Because each calf is given at least 43.75 ft² of usable floorspace, Exhibit D illustrates a compliant group housing system.



VEAL HOUSING GUIDE - SYMBOL KEY					
Veal Calf	1 Square Foot	Compliant Enclosure Area	Noncompliant Enclosure Area	Calf is able to turn around freely	Calf is unable to turn around freely

FOR MORE INFO
SCAN THE QR CODE

